

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the office action dated February 26, 2008. Examiner's withdrawal of previous rejections made under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is noted with appreciation. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-12, 14, and 16-18 are currently pending.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-12, 14, and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,348,971 to Owa et al. (*hereinafter*, "Owa") in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0052995 to Idehara (*hereinafter*, "Idehara"). In view of the amendments and arguments set forth below, it is submitted that all pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record.

In accordance with the afore-noted amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art, and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/00020.

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Respectfully submitted,



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